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Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

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Editor and Manager.

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WAR WITH MEXICO IS PROBABLE

It is possible that the Americans and Carranzistas can chase Villa to a finish without having a clash between themselves, but it is highly improbable. Two bodies cannot occupy the same place at the same time, and it is almost a certainty that in this case there will be crowding that will result in general war with Mexico.

An idea of the ignorance of the masses of Mexico can be gathered from the statement in a Durango newspaper to the effect that Villa had captured New Mexico and Texas, and that President Wilson was fleeing. If the Mexicans knew anything of geography they would know that no matter how large his force, Villa could not capture a territory almost as large as Mexico, over night, and that the president 2,500 miles away would not be in flight for a few days at least.

No newspaper would make such a statement if it did not know that the great mass of its readers were in utter ignorance of everything pertaining to the United States.

It is this very ignorance that makes the situation so hard to deal with. The natives are led to believe the Americans are invading their country for the purpose of subjugating it, and they are told the United States is weak, and no match for Mexico. They are thus stirred to anger and driven to attack the American soldiers.

Of course the newspapers know better, and their statements are made for the purpose of deceiving the masses. Why?

Carranza repeats the statement so often made on this side of the border that American money is financing the Villa movement, and it is fair to presume it is also financing the newspapers making such statements.

At the beginning of the revolution, that is the Carranza revolt, it was a common rumor that the whole affair was staged by the Standard Oil Company and the Pearce Oil Company of England, who were fighting each other for the Mexican oil fields. It may be there was nothing in these rumors, but since that time they have bobbed up every little while, and still do so.

The city council is supposed to look after all matters pertaining to the peace, health and comfort of the community, and if this is the correct idea of its duties and functions it is respectfully submitted that it is neglecting its duties in not taking steps to remove some other steps, those on the Salem street cars. They are practically non-negotiable and are a real danger as well as an unmitigated nuisance. The car company would make money by lowering the steps or making them so Salem's women could enter the cars without being dragged aboard like a bale of hay.

The course of true love never did and never will run smooth. David Simon of North Yakima loved his brother's wife and helped her get a divorce expecting to marry her. But alas for David, she loved another. If there was anything David could not stand for it was treachery and deceit, and so feeling he was badly mated, he shot and killed her in the presence of his hated rival who can now seek another love while David will have from 10 to 35 years to wait before the little god can fire any more arrows into him.

The United States director of mines expresses the opinion that at the present rate of use of coal oil and its products, the supply in the United States will be exhausted in 27 years. This is not a cheerful outlook for the autoists, for as it gets scarcer the price will advance, so that in a few years it will be prohibitive. It would seem in the light of this information that it would be wisdom on the part of car owners to wear out their cars as quickly as possible and avoid the high cost of joy riding in the near future.

What a pity John D. can't live to see the oil fields nearing exhaustion and gasoline going up a cent or two a day. It would almost make the old oil king forget his golf and fail to remember that he had no stomach.

J. T. Mason, who from his comfortable home in New York, fought the European war on paper until it got beyond him, thinks he sees another chance to show his expertness at the war game, and so has taken charge of the Mexican situation and broke into the dispatches again. He is already making some suggestions that should make the job easy for Generals Funston and Pershing.

United States troops are now on Mexican soil, and they should not leave it until not only Villa is done for, but until the Mexicans generally are taught the sacredness of life and the rights of all mankind to protection within their territory. The job has been begun, let it be finished thoroughly.

Don't overlook the fact that there will be a section of the Holy Land exhibited in the Ryan building beginning next Monday and seeable for six consecutive days. None of us can go to the Holy Land, why not then take a peep at it when it is brought to us?

The news from the Mexican border is decidedly mixed, but when the first excitement of the job wears off the press representatives will get down to work, and give us the stories of the day without so much guess work and embellishment.

Neither the big war in Europe nor the little one in Mexico will interfere with the growing of flax, so let's get out a goodly acreage of it and turn our attention to making Salem the Belfast of America, the flax center of the universe.

General Funston is not making any promises but he significantly remarked to some of the correspondents yesterday: "We shall accomplish what we seek to do." Not very long winded but acutely suggestive.

The press correspondents on the Mexican border are profuse, and persistent in forwarding their individual guesses at what is not doing. They are new on the job and can't wait for something to happen.

With "New Mexico and Texas captured, President Wilson fleeing and Villa marching north," the Mexican people should be reasonably well satisfied with the progress Villa is making.

It is claimed Charlie Chaplin is paid \$670,000 a year for turning out one movie picture a month. If true, this is a remarkably high price for a phenomenally bum actor.

San Diego always was lucky. It can now feature a Mexican war near its suburbs as an especial extra attraction in addition to its perennial fair.

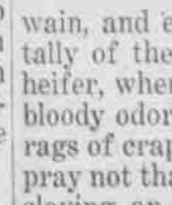
What is the reason the hens all get busy and lay so abundantly when eggs are high and quit as soon as the price goes up?

Salem folks are used to the shack called a depot, but just think of it being allowed to remain within 53 miles of Portland.



FIGHTING AND FARMING

Since winter on its way is faring, and spring is in again, old Europe's hosts are now preparing to slay about a million men. Great husky youths who should be seeding the fertile fields to wheat and oats, will spend the springtime scrapping, bleeding, intent on cutting strangers' throats. The hills of France shall see no tiller, the vales in vain expect the plow, and Death, the dour and dusty miller, is doing all the grist-work now. And Death is measuring the acres where once the shepherds used to bask, to see that kings and kindred fakers have room to do their butcher's task. And Death demands the ox and charger, which used to draw the loaded wain, and everything that will make larger his crimson tally of the slain. Where once the milkmaid drove the heifer, where once the vintner pressed the grape, Death's bloody odor taints the zephyr, Death flaunts his rusty rags of crape. When to your divers gods you're praying, pray not that either side may win, but for an end to crazy slaying, an end to murder's smoke and din.



To Open Siletz Land To Settlement Soon

Between 15,000 and 16,000 acres of government land, most of which is good for agricultural purposes, located in the Siletz Indian reservation in Lincoln county, has been thrown open for entry by order of President Woodrow Wilson, dated February 29, and notice of which was received today at the Oregon land offices. For the most part this land is located along the streams in the Siletz country, and there are already squatters on considerable of it. It is the land which was withdrawn from entry in 1910 by President Taft owing to fraudulent entries. Recently Senators Chamberlain and Lane have been interesting themselves in the matter, and after an investigation President Wilson has thrown it open again to entry. The executive order received today at the land office follows: "Siletz Indian reservation executive order of July 13, 1910, temporarily withdrawing the lands for the purpose of classification and pending enactment of legislation within the former Siletz Indian reservation located in the state of Oregon, as modified by executive order dated July 19, 1913, is hereby revoked and the unappropriated lands will be subject to entry under the act of August 15, 1894, (28 statute 326) on and after April 1, 1916."

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A VILLA SCORE

Washington, March 15—Five hundred former Villistas heavily armed are in the vicinity of Dragon, Arizona, declared Senator Henry Ashurst this afternoon in appealing to General Hugh Scott, chief of staff, to rush troops there.

OPEN FORUM

Report Appreciated.

Editor of Capital Journal: It is nice to have an entertainment written up as was the last one at Wacanda by the Quinaby reporter. I wish to congratulate Quinaby for having such able reporters and to invite the Beuna Crest people to come again, as reflects the electric lights, so does an able reporter cause the hidden lights to radiate the flowers that bloom unseen to unfold for the pleasure of many. In other words, it brings a locality into prominence, introducing its agricultural successes, as did Hood River, or its intellectual ability, as does Boston. Now who would guess that Wacanda, that unpretentious little burg, in its extensive distances, had hundreds of acres of fruit, legumes and hops, that would rival Hood River? If you want to see our country people in town, come to Wacanda to the free entertainment given on the evening of March 18th, rain or shine they will all be there. On the stage and in the audience, we present Oregon's best. Our young ladies are perfectly charming. For flowery language who can beat the oratorical ability of M. J. Egan, Carlton Savage of Salem high school fame, and our other flowery speakers. As a whistler we challenge any to whistle in contest with Dess Martin. The plays are staged by George H. Finney, who formerly taught the Gervais dramatic society.

Mrs. Collins is the able teacher of the Concord orchestra and on the Hammond line lives Albert Egan. We claim him as the sweet singer of Wacanda. L. H. McMahon, the bright lawyer, farmer, lives here. Charlie Hall, that genial farmer; Aaron Nason, an able elocutionist; Mrs. Ellen Massey, a very competent school teacher; Mrs. Parks, a former teacher and a missionary; Mrs. Ralph Shepherd, our best gardener and sociable neighbor, and others too numerous to mention, and this was the house of W. A. Jones, he who, if talk comes to trial, may be the next governor of Oregon.

I tell you we are some people, who know but in our midst may be living a future president of the United States. Salem people should come out on the Oregon electric and see the Wacanda entertainment.

ELLA M. FINNEY.

FROM A HOUSEWIFE.

To the Editor: One of Bethel's housewives wishes to speak a good word for Oregon flour; thinks her last baking (which was of Oregon flour) as good bread as she ever baked.

The same housewife would like to add a few words of warning in regard to card clubs. Is the example good for the young and also those who attend parties on Saturday evening? Do they have time to prepare their Sunday school lessons? I think what we do should be something useful and helpful as well as for pleasure. For I think we all hope for Heaven, some day; "Heaven consists of Uses" as I understand the word.

BETHEL HOUSEWIFE.

Bethel News

(Capital Journal Special Service.) Bethel, Ore., Mar. 16—Pupils of the Bethel school gave the debate at the Literary Friday night. The question was "Resolved, That the cow is more useful than the horse." Bert Sundborg and Herman Doney told of the good points of the cow while Elmer Roth and Johnnie Zak extolled the virtues of the horse. The decision of the judges was four for the negative and one for the affirmative.

The following program was given: Song—By a juvenile chorus. Recitation—"St. Patrick's Day," by Alta Matten. Recitation—"The Clock," by Josephine Zak. Recitation—"Three Wise Men," by Vera Roth.

Song—"You Can't Guess What He Wrote on My Slate," by Christine Balansen, Gusie Puetz, Mattie Puetz, and Iva Roth.

Recitation—By Chester Sundborg. Reading—By John Zak. Song—By John Zak. Reading—"U. B. Dan," by John Clark.

Mandoline duet—By Baker Bros. Reading—By Gustave Balansen. Wm. Boeman, assisted by Madison Nichols and Hazel Hoffman, gave an exhibition of magic; reading notes enclosed in sealed envelopes and placed upon a desk on the darkened stage.

Some of the Bethel school girls sold pop corn balls and candy to raise funds for the baseball team.

A few Bethelites attended the meeting of the Maclay Literary society Saturday night. There was a good debate on the question, "Resolved, That arithmetic is more important than history." The decision of the judges was two for the affirmative and one for the negative. A good program was given. The number most appreciated was a prophecy entitled, "Just Twelve Years," which was read by Miss Mary Miller. The Maclay Literary has just been organized. They will have meetings on the first and third Saturdays of each month.

A card club was organized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Swales Saturday night. Meetings will be held once a week on Saturday nights. The following

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members were present: Mr. and Mrs. Homer Holms, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Greach, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Bressler, Mr. and Mrs. L. Rautenburg and Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Baker. The game of the evening was progressive pedro. Progressive whist has been suggested for the next meeting. Lunch was served at 12:30 and the meeting adjourned about an hour later.

The Bethel orchestra meets Sunday night and Wednesday night of each week. Last Sunday night there were two violins, two mandolins, two cornets, two guitars and a bass horn. We hope to have a clarinet before long, also other instruments. Any one wishing to join the orchestra will be welcome at the meetings.

Mr. John Zak was made the victim of a surprise party last Saturday night. John says it was a real surprise as far as he was concerned.

Quinaby News Notes

(Capital Journal Special Service.)

Quinaby, Ore., Mar. 16—While crossing the Southern Pacific tracks at Chemawa, a farmer named Hill was struck by a train Saturday morning, and severely injured. He was taken to Salem where he was examined by the company's physician, and later brought to his home where he is under the care of Dr. Fisher. Two ribs were torn from his spine. A child riding with him was uninjured, although the wagon in which they rode was demolished.

News of the death of Mrs. T. M. Kirby in Portland is received here. She was the wife of an old resident of Hayesville and G. A. R. man. They had been married about a year.

Mrs. Susan McMunn attended the funeral of Mrs. Minnie McCauley in Salem Monday.

Frank Conger, of Salem, will shortly remove to his home at Quinaby, recently purchased from J. C. McFarlane. Mrs. Ida Caldwell, of Portland, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Joseph Hargrave.

Miss Leona Girod is planning to enter a training school for nurses.

Mr. and Mrs. John Farrar, of the Salem postoffice force, carried mail on route eight Tuesday while Carrier F. L. South inspected his fruit farm.

Mrs. Franklyn B. Matthews and son Merle, of Wacanda, visited relatives here Sunday.

The telephone lines of this section are being overhauled and new poles put in position.

The Lang farm from which much fine fruit has been shipped during the past few seasons, is having many cherry trees grafted to the Royal Anne, owing to the sales made last year at prices above other varieties.

Veteran Editor, Lecturer And Minister Is Dead

Boles, Idaho, Mar. 16.—John D. Flenneghan, pioneer Methodist minister, journalist and lecturer, died this morning at the age of 85 years. He left the ministry 27 years ago to become editor of the Idaho Daily Statesman and for a quarter of a century he was a prominent contributor to the Western press and magazines, besides attaining distinction as a lecturer.

Perhaps there is nothing in a name, but Woodrow has nominated Mr. Woodrough, of Omaha, for United States district judge of Nebraska.

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